

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

March 17, 2022

"The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places."

Issue CI.10

H-SC ELECTS NEW SLATE OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT EXECS



Photo courtesy of Benjamin Hager '23

2022-23 Campus Leaders to Begin Terms Officially on April 1

Drake Kalinowski '23
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, February 24th, the student body of Hampden-Sydney College once again convened in the court of public opinion to elect four new officials to executive positions in student government. Ian Novak, Alex Rubino, and Benjamin Hager were elected Student Court Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, and College Activities Chairman, respectively. While the student body did have the opportunity to attend debates with these fine men and their competitors before the election, there are still some questions that deserve some more direct responses. The Tiger asked these gentlemen the following series of questions: What drove you to run for

this position, what is your first priority in this new position, what specific impact do you hope to have on The College through your tenure in this position, what are your hopes for the underclassmen for whom you serve as a role model, and what lasting changes do you wish to leave behind on The Hill?

S t u d e n t Court Chairman Ian Novak emphasized a need to give back to the college through servant leadership. Mr. Novak feels empowered by the insight that serving on the Court to this point has given him, and hopes to bring passion and energy to the role of Student Court Chairman. His first priority is increasing the transparency of the operations of the Honor Court. He addressed the not-uncommon cult-like perception of the Court, ques-

tering themselves in the third floor of the student center around a series of tables and closing themselves off from the greater student body. Novak hopes for more interaction between the Court and the student body, perhaps through example mock trials or forums on The Key. His agenda and the impact he wishes to have is to leave The Hill better than he found it. He emphasizes the fantastic job done by the preceding Chairman Coleman, and hopes to continue that legacy of imparting students with a sense of honor and proper conduct. As for his hopes for underclassmen, Novak hopes to make them more comfortable approaching figures of authority on the honor code and code of conduct when they feel uncomfortable. Novak

recalls a daunting Student Court from his freshman year, and he wishes to change this image. Finally, Novak wishes to foster a new era of engagement on campus emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. He hopes to help increase student involvement and retainment before next spring.

Alex Rubino ran for secretary-treasurer because it enables him to ensure equitable opportunity for students on campus in addition to the overall enjoyment he hopes to get out of the position. His first priority is the future of The College, with a focus on affecting graduating classes not yet enrolled. Mr. Rubino's agenda is to make campus life as active as possible and increase the amount

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THE OTHER CONFEDERACY: DR. CHRISTOPHER PHILLIPS GIVES INAUGURAL RONALD HEINEMANN LECTURE

Drake Kalinowski '23
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Christopher Phillips, John and Dorothy Hermanies Professor of American History and University Distinguished Professor in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences from the University of Cincinnati gave the first Ronald L. Heinemann Lecture on history in the American South this past Tuesday. By Dr. Phillips' own admission, this talk does bear some special significance, being given just only sixty miles from the former capital of the Confederacy.

The talk began with a reading from Dr. Phillips' unpublished works detailing the dissent present in the western confederate-aligned states. The narrative of division is clear as Dr. Phillips illustrates the savage divide between the loyal Jayhawkers of Arkansas and the middling white southerners who eventually made up most of the Confederate army.

After he set the scene, however, Dr. Phillips transferred the tone of the talk. The latter half of his discussion focused on the idea of "collective loss" that permeates the history of the Confederacy. He went on to explain this phe-

nomenon in terms of the population of the South. Dr. Phillips asserts that most of the 'middle class' of the southern states did not support the war. The cause for the war was, for the Confederacy, centered around the protection of the institution of slavery.

Most of those who fought in the Confederate army were not slave owners of any significant standing within the South; in fact, those who most chiefly wanted the institution of slavery to continue were not actually those who raised rifle or sword against the forces of the Union. This upper crust of the South often held contempt for the lower-class white folk who actually took up arms against the Union, regarding them as unreliable, white trash types.

The historical focus on those who either strongly supported the Confederacy, like the upper class plantation owners, or on those who strongly opposed the Confederacy, such as slaves or abolitionists, ignores roughly half of the Southerners who were not die-hard secessionists.

Dr. Phillips illustrated the divide within the western confederacy as well with the example

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MR. TIGER GOES TO WASHINGTON

Daniel Marsden '23
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Ryan Pemberton, Director of the Wilson Center, and Dr. David Marion, Elliot Emeritus Professor of Government and Foreign Affairs, are teaching INDS 385: Leadership the U.S. Federal System this semester. The culmination of this trip came last week with the long-awaited trip to Washington DC. The class spent Saturday March 5th to Thursday March 10th in the nation's capital learning about the various leadership roles that alumni engage in surrounding the federal government. The primary goal of this trip was to meet

with alumni and friends of the college to learn more about federal politics, law, and administration.

The trip began with a meeting with Steve Park, head of Little Lights Urban Ministries. Little Lights is a non-profit "long-term, year-round support and services for three public housing communities in Washington DC." The organization supports the community "with an array of programs that center academic and youth development, economic empowerment, and relational support." After catching the Wizards game that evening, the group prepared for a week of meetings with alumni.

Monday began in the conference room of Holland & Knight LLP. Jason Kello '99, from Amazon Web Services, and Kenneth Bradley '05, from the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs in the State Department, and Kevin Turner '03, corporate attorney at Holland & Knight, gave a clarifying overview of the issues currently facing the country regarding global interactions. After the talk, the class went across town to Jones Day and sat down with Rob Luther '03, and the attorneys Brett Shumate and Joe Falvey. They discussed the complex issues surrounding administrative rulemaking and the

faces of global interaction. These included trade immigration human rights, and national security. Hugo Rodriguez '88, DAS from the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs in the State Department, and Kevin Turner '03, corporate attorney at Holland & Knight, gave a clarifying overview of the issues currently facing the country regarding global interactions.

After the talk, the class went across town to Jones Day and sat down with Rob Luther '03, and the attorneys Brett Shumate and Joe Falvey. They discussed the complex issues surrounding administrative rulemaking and the

Supreme Court, including the Chevron doctrine. Afterwards, the class met with former ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein Ed McMullen '86 for dinner. This concluded a single action-packed day.

The next morning began with a talk given by Lewis Robinson '91, Assistant Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, on the issues facing the nation in the current global environment. The class then took a trip to Thompson Hospitality, to meet with Warren Thompson '81 and Rodney Ruffin '82.

Next came a day at Kirkland and Ellis LLP, the largest law firm in

the world. The first talk of the day focused on the state of the American military post 9/11 and was given by Adam Barker '05, staff with the Senate Armed Services committee, Jim Forbes '91, Senior Readiness Analyst for Headquarters Department of the Army, and Col. Anderson Sale, Director of Operations US Army Intelligence at Ft. Belvoir.

To the surprise of the students in the class, Dr. Pemberton and Dr. Marion had arranged for Gen. David Petraeus, five star general famous for leading the surge in Afghanistan, to talk to the class for an hour

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Sports

STUDENT
GOVERNMENT
INTERVIEWS,
CONT'D

of enjoyment that students get out of time spent with their brothers on The Hill. He wants to work to eliminate club debt, increase student executive communication, and organize projects for the future. For the underclassmen looking up to him, Rubino hopes that his interest in serving his brothers will help inspire them to help the student body in any way possible. Specifically, he wants to emphasize the importance of responsibility to the students attending Hampden-Sydney. Finally, the legacy that Mr. Rubino wishes to leave is to keep students as active as possible, both on and off-campus. His hope is that with more events occurring on The Hill, students will wish to stay longer and will ultimately enjoy their precious college years more fully.

Finally, Benjamin Hager was driven to run for College Activities Council Chair due to his continual presence on the council since freshman year. He wants to use this position to improve student life on campus and increase involvement. Hager emphasizes the importance of the student body in the College Activities Council by writing “The more input and help we get from the student body, the better.” His first priority is the Tiger Inn. Currently, the CAC is in talks with Thompson Hospitality and the Office of Student Affairs to make the TI feel more like a traditional college bar, and less of a hotel lobby. They hope to organize trivia, karaoke, open mic nights, and live music from local artists. Towards the end of the semester, Mr. Hager will personally be doing a study of the most successful college bars in the Commonwealth to get a better idea of what can be done to improve the TI. Besides the TI, Hager hopes to continue the active events the CAC has hosted like video game tournaments, fishing tournaments, and so on. He also hopes to introduce more ‘passive events,’ like daily trivia at the TI for points, with the top winners be-

Net Gain for Sports Fans
March Madness Tips Off

GAITHER COMEAU '24
STAFF WRITER

The best time of the year for many sports fans has arrived. March has become a staple in the sports world due to the number of different sports leagues and all of the activity within each of them. However, none are more iconic than the NCAA Tournament, or better known as March Madness. This year has already been a great year for men's college basketball, but it is nowhere near over yet. This tournament has been set up to leave all basketball enjoyers with a number of entertaining games for everyone's desires. The brackets will be officially set after the play in games are played in order to determine who gets in last but the official number one seeds are set in stone as well as all other areas of the brackets. Looking into the tournament, many people will have the overall favorite team, Gonzaga, set to win it all. With Drew Timme and Chet Holgren dominating all season,

ing given TI credit or gift cards. While it is still in the design phase, Hager remains hopeful to implement similar ideas throughout his tenure. For the underclassmen, Hager hopes to inspire the younger brothers of HSC to strive for excellence in this particular arena. He emphasized the important role that the CAC plays on campus regarding the events they put on. Beyond that even, Hager sees the potential to realize a dramatic positive change for the entire college, improving the quality of student life. While he looks forward to his tenure, he also wants to work to secure the future of this organization for those who follow him. For the legacy of his time, Hager wants to bring people together at CAC events. He hopes to bring a vast majority of the student body together at events that are routinely held so that students can meet with brothers

leading Gonzaga to have the number one scoring offense in the country, there is a clear reason why the Bulldogs are the favorites in this year's tournament. The Bulldogs enter the tournament with only three losses, and this comes as no surprise due to Gonzaga being one of the most consistent teams in college basketball in recent years. After coming up short last year in the national title game, the Bulldogs are looking to not only return to the national championship game; but complete their tournament run with a win. Coming in as the second overall seed are the Arizona Wildcats who sit at the top of the South Region. This team seems to be put together perfectly from Tommy Lloyd's elite level coaching, which has allowed for him to have a chance to break the record for most wins by a first-year coach if he makes the Final Four. They have immaculate play from the entire team with Bennedict Mathruin providing the team with a constant mismatch at the point

guard position due to his height, and as Azuolas Tubelis and Christian Koloko being forces down low. The Arizona Wildcats could be seen as one of the most complete teams in the tournament and has a great chance of cementing their names with champions. Another basketball powerhouse in Kansas comes in at the third overall seed. Ochai Agbaji has been a big part of this Jayhawks team and has been debated as the most NBA ready prospect in all of college basketball. In order for this team to make a run in the tournament, Agbaji must play up to the level that many people view him as. The former national champions, the Baylor Bears, are listed as the fourth overall seed. The Bears lost some talent from the former championship roster, but that has not slowed them down in any sort of way. They enter this tournament being led by James Akinjo and Adam Flagler who contributed last year to the championship. There is no doubt that this team is going into this tourna-

ment to prove that they are still a team to be feared despite their player losses from last season. Other blue-chip programs that have a good shot to make it far in the tournament include Duke, which is seeking to send Coach K out with one last national championship. Villanova, which comes in behind Arizona in the South region that can get hot fast. Auburn, who at times has looked like the best team in the country, as well as Kentucky, Purdue, Tennessee, and Arkansas. There also some teams within the tournament that could very well break some brackets this year, such as Virginia Tech, which is coming off of its first ACC tournament win over Duke, and Loyola Chicago, who went on a Cinderella run not long ago with Sister Jean at their side. Each game is a must watch this year because as we see every year, there is a reason it is called March Madness.

H-SC LAX Crosses Opponents

CONNOR KITSON '24
STAFF WRITER

The Hampden-Sydney Lacrosse Team has historically been a successful program. However, the 2022 season has had a slow start as they start with a 3-3 record. Nevertheless, the Tigers are confident that they can turn things around and meet their goals for the season. H a m p - den-Sydney's La-

crosse team has ambitious goals for the 2022 season. “Our goals this season include winning the ODAC and getting into the national tournament,” said Senior Captain Sean Duffy. Duffy has been a significant contributor to the team so far this year. Duffy has racked up 17 goals and one assist throughout its first six games. However, many other players have contributed to the team.

“A few of our stand-out players include Will Perry, Bobby Clagget, Presley Miller, Henry Hitt, Grayson Rockaway, and Nick Stepanian,” said Duffy. “There are plenty more names that could be listed that are having a great season for us.” The Tigers have a unique experience coming up in their future matchup. “We play Catholic this upcoming Saturday in Audi stadium in DC. After our game, UVA plays

Maryland, and Duke plays Towson,” said Duffy. “This is a super cool opportunity that not many college lacrosse players get to experience.” Duffy sheds light on the legacy he wants to leave as a Hampden-Sydney Tiger. “I plan on finishing my career by bringing an ODAC championship back to the hill and making some noise in the national tournament.”



Photo courtesy of the tigers.com

they may not have met under normal circumstances. Hager ends his hopes for his legacy with these powerful words: “The more cohesive we can be as a college, the better we'll be able to achieve our mission of developing good men and good citizens.” All of these executives are fine examples of good men and good citi-

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



NEWS

FINALLY ESCAPING HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

H-SC ESCAPE ROOM REOPENS WITH *HEIST* THEME

RICHARD JONES '25
STAFF WRITER

Mind racing. Heart thumping. Pressure building. All of these Jacob Smith '23 and Team Narwhal felt while trying to complete “Heist!,” this year’s theme for Escape Hampden-Sydney, and escape they did.

On Saturday February 13th, Team Narwhal completed the Escape Room in record time, shattering old records and setting the bar a little higher for future runners. “I first tried it in freshman year with a group, but we ended up running out of time,” Smith said. “It was very exciting to finally beat it with my friends.”

But why was Smith so excited about beating Escape Hampden-Sydney? What set it apart from escape rooms around the globe? Escape Hampden-Sydney began in Europe. Dr. Marc Hight, Thompson Professor of Philosophy at the College, was on vacation when he stumbled upon an Escape Room. “Escape Rooms were really big in Europe before they came over to America,” Hight said in an interview.

Hight, who also teaches logic at the College, was hooked. “I thought, ‘This would be great for my logic students,’” Hight recalled. It took a year of convincing, but Hight was able to get a small room in the basement of Bortz Library. “Escape Hampden-Sydney pulls people into the library, which is both fortuitous and not an accident,” Hight said, smiling.

Instrumental to this victory was then head of Bortz Library Cy Dillion, who personally pushed for Escape Hampden-Sydney. Escape Hampden-Sydney had widespread success right from the start, with one-hundred Hampden-Sydney students running the room in its first year.

But there was still the issue of money. “I paid out of pocket for the first year or two,” Hight said, “But then some very generous alumni ran the room and decided to fund it.” These generous do-

nations enabled any profit from Escape Hampden-Sydney to be donated to the College. “I make no profit from Escape Hampden-Sydney,” Hight stated. It is truly a labor of love for the good doctor and a gift to Hampden-Sydney College.

Those who have never participated in the Escape Room might not realize the amount of work that goes into each room. Each and every year, Hight must come up with a new theme for the



room and diverse puzzles that are appropriate to the audience, with previous themes including missile disarmament and zombie cure. “We test puzzles and themes individually and informally before we open the room,” Hight explained. “The 80s music theme did not work out so well in testing,” he remembered fondly.

One of the lucky few who got to test Hight’s most recent escape room was Ms. Sue Carter, the Director of Human Resources at the College, who tested the room in a group of four. “I had been to a lot of Escape Rooms before, specifically in Virginia and North Carolina,” Carter said in an interview, “but Escape Hampden-Sydney made us feel like we were in a movie.” She went on to say that the Escape Room was “intellectually challenging,” “incredibly creative,” and “had the underlying feel of togetherness that made HSC different.” She stated that, although she had only gone to support her colleagues, Escape Hampden-Sydney “blew her expectations” and that she “plans to do the speedrun when it becomes available.”

The speedrun

itself is another invention of Hight. “We aim for a 10-20% completion rate,” said Hight, “but those who couldn’t finish can try again after the semester ends.” Escape Hampden-Sydney remains open four weeks after graduation, giving an opportunity for those who, as Carter said, “did not complete the Escape Room but were very close” to race against the clock once again and Escape Hampden-Sydney.



With the generosity of Hampden-Sydney’s alumni, Hight was able to transform his little room in the basement of Bortz into a state-of-the-art Escape Room. “In the first two years of Escape Hampden-Sydney, I had to sit in the room with the team,” Hight said. Now, Escape Hampden-Sydney features video cameras and a communications system. All of these advancements have allowed Hight to open up Escape Hampden-Sydney to anyone who wants to run it, not just Hampden-Sydney students in his logic class. However, Hampden-Sydney students are still prioritized, paying ten dollars as opposed to the twenty-dollar fee for the general public.

Not only does Escape Hampden-Sydney have the support of generous alumni, but it also has widespread support among the faculty. At the start of Escape-Hampden Sydney, Hight had only one team member: Technical Services Librarian Maryska Connolly-Brown, who ardently aided the Escape Room for four years. Now, Hight’s team has grown to include four mem-

bers, himself included. These faculty members are Dr. Jacob Euteneuer, Dr. Kevin Dunn, and Dr. Michael Strayer. In addition to his team, Hight would like to thank Shaunna Hunter-McKinney, the current Director of Bortz Library, for her continued support of Escape-Hampden-Sydney.

With such support backing his endeavor, Hight has high hopes for the future of Escape Hampden-Sydney. “I would like to see the room appeal to more people,” Hight said, “and still keep the wonderful mixture of academic skills and having a good time.” Hight also added that he would like to see Escape Hampden-Sydney inspire Hampden-Sydney students to design and complete their own escape rooms, displaying and building the leadership skills so heavily emphasized at the College. It seems like his dreams are already coming true, with Jacob Smith encouraging everyone to try to Escape Hampden-Sydney.

If you and your friends would like to participate, email Professor Hight at mhight@hsc.edu. Escape Rooms may only be run during library hours, so make sure to send several times during library hours to ensure your space and remember that fees are ten dollars for Hampden-Sydney students and twenty dollars for any guests; including family, friends, and all non-HSC students. Good luck to Dr. Hight and his team and congratulations to Team Narwhal on their record-breaking achievement!

Errata

In “A Welcome Admission: Enrollments Up” ran in the February 24 issue of The Tiger, the Hurt Scholarship was mistakenly called the “Hertz Scholarship.” Additionally, in the masthead on page 2, the name of Connor Hoban '25 name was mistakenly spelled “Connor Hobarn.”

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

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The views expressed in the Hampden-Sydney Tiger are those of their authors and do not reflect the official stance of The Tiger.

History, cont'd

of Texas, the westernmost state of the Confederate States of America, where only a third of the population supported the cause of the Confederacy. This ‘other Confederacy’ of the western states best illustrates the argument presented by Dr. Phillips that many southerners did not support the cause of Southern independence. In fact, in Texas, governor Sam Houston was removed from power by the upper class planters who supported the Confederacy. This is the perfect microcosm for what happened throughout the rest of the south, where undemocratic processes forced the average person to join the cause of the South.

Dr. Phillips paints a picture of the South that is not often thought of. Often, when The Late Great Unpleasantness is discussed, two ideas come to mind. The idea of every white man in the South taking up arms against the haughty Union bluebacks, or the focus from the enslaved on how oppressive the South is. Not often are the middlemen, merely trying to survive in the region in which their forefathers lived, discussed or thought of. With how insightful this lecture was, the brotherhood can only hope that Dr. Phillips and other lecturers like him continue to enlighten us for years to come.

Washington, D.C., cont'd

about the developing situation in Ukraine. Chris Hall '15, Lucas West '13, and Alex Parham '20 then spoke about their experience working on the Hill in the offices of congressmen. Afterwards, Chris Cooper '93, founder of convergence targeted communications, talked about party politics in 2022 and predictions for the election. Finally, Tucker Shumack '95, Principal at Ogilvy Government Relations, and Paul Pisano '89, from the National Beer Wholesalers

Association, explained the challenges in lobbying. For the final speech of the evening in the trip, Baron Seager '84, president and CEO of World Food Program USA, gave a speech at the Army Navy Country Club to the class and a group of alumni in DC. Throughout the course of the trip, students were able to not only learn from experts about working in and around the federal government, but they were also able to network with important alumni in exciting fields.

PEANUT GALLERY

SAM ROBELEN '23
CARTOONIST

CARTOON



Cubists students encouraged to resume masking as soon as possible.

WE WILL FIGHT THEM IN THE MOVIE THEATERS

DANIEL NIVENS '24
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

To those of you who know me, you probably know that I am quite terrible at watching movies. Chances are if you ever ask me “Have you seen this movie?”, the answer is no. So, in an effort to make myself watch some movies, I am writing this column. In every issue of The Tiger, I will be writing a non-spoiler review of an old movie that I had never seen. These movies could be a decade old; they could be five decades old. The moral of the story is that spoiler alerts never spoil.

This week, I took a look at a much more recent movie, but one no less deserving of the attention of this column than any other movie I’ve covered. Released in 2017 and directed by Joe Wright,

Darkest Hour is a period piece that dramatizes the period between Neville Chamberlain’s resignation and Winston Churchill’s “We will never surrender” speech in Parliament. While taking several liberties with the historical facts, the movie accurately portrays the mood of the British people, Parliament, and Churchill in that period of World War II.

There are many, many things this movie does correctly. Most notably is, of course, Gary Oldman’s portrayal of the Prime Minister, for which he won an Oscar. Oldman is actually so convincing that photos of Churchill don’t look quite right after the movie. Oldman’s face just seems to meld over whatever memory one had of Churchill prior. He believably represents Churchill’s cutting wit, while also aptly demon-

strating the toll the man’s smoking and drinking habits had on his health. When Oldman delivers one of Churchill’s speeches, I find myself waxing with patriotic fervor for a country in which I am not a citizen and a time in which I did not live. I truly can’t exalt his performance enough.

The cinematography is also quite good, in my personal opinion.

Though many professional reviewers thought the cinematography detracted from the movie, I found the unique camera angles and the way the characters interact with it engaging and moving. This is particularly striking when the camera turns to the beleaguered British soldiers trying to hold off the Nazis in France. The one thing that the movie

doesn’t handle quite as well is the setup. It assumes a familiarity with major British politicians of the time, the events of the opening shots of World War II, and Churchill’s personality. A lot of the joy from Oldman’s performance comes from seeing what I already knew about Churchill portrayed so perfectly. The same is true of other major characters, such as

Chamberlain, King George VI, and Lord Halifax. One must know that the last King suffered from a speech impediment to appreciate Ben Mendelsohn’s slight lisp and stutter, for example. All in all, I love Darkest Hour. It’s simply one of the best political WWII movies out there. Accounting for its flaws, though, I will give it an 85%.



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

H-SC SLUDGE REPORT

From the Desk of Chairperson Pro Tempore of the People’s Provisional Sludge Committee Post Tempore (Jeffrey Hunsaker '23)
Bortz Library Rated Best Hotel in Prince Edward County.

RPE Adds Diversity Score.

President Zelensky Offers to Pay Tuition of HSC Foreign Legion Volunteers.

External Reviewer Reports Gilmer Water Runoff into Chalgrove “Turning the Frickin’ Frogs Gay.”

Econ Department Gives Lecture on Rule 34 of Inflation. Google for More Information.

Wilson Center Begs to be Added to Core Curriculum.

Dr. Frusetta Recruits Persian Immortals in Preparation for Greek Week.

Compass Program Clarifies that Foreign Legion Service in Ukraine Will NOT Count for Off-The-Hill Credit.

Sweet Briar Largely Unaffected by Rising Gas Prices.

Deadlift Platform Gone Missing: Bounty is Placed, Wanted Dead or Alive.

Hampden-Sydney Ontology Department Concludes that Gaslighting Does not Exist.

Irish Student Union Claims North House Is Rightfully Theirs.

Putin Announces Contract with Thompson Hospitality in Effort to Lower Expenses.

Irish Student Gets Drunk to Celebrate Thursday.

THE BACK PAGE

Aliens . . . But Not in Space

MICHAEL HARRIS '22
LIFE EDITOR

On March 3rd I had the esteemed pleasure of watching the production *Aliens* which was directed by interim director, Andrew Bryce. It was truly an entertaining show full of laughs and lessons. Definitely a perfect way to send me off for spring break. My only regret is that I wasn't able to see it all five nights. It was clear how much care the director put

into this show. Even though there were only three characters, the stage was filled with passion and excitement. The first act was amazing. Characters named Jasper and KJ, who like to hangout in the back of a restaurant, meet a worker who is just trying to take out the trash. This incident becomes a bud that blossoms into a fantastic friendship between the three. They celebrate the fourth of July together, sing songs,

and indulge in the fantastic writings that Jasper has written while discussing the complexities of life. The first act was extremely lively and you could feel the laughter within the theater. The atmosphere was fantastic and the acting even more so. The vulgarity gave the play a layer of maturity within immaturity that you don't usually get with entertainment. Words and actions one would consider taboo on stage were very well

executed to create something hilarious. In Act 2, however, it takes a dark turn. You start to get a sneaking suspicion that something is wrong when the lights come on and only KJ is sitting in the back of the diner. When the worker comes by and asks where Jasper is, KJ says that he is away. However, it is later revealed that Jasper died shortly before the events in Act 2 due to a drug overdose. Both the work-

er and KJ are distraught and it leads to a heartbreaking monologue by KJ. Act 2 was filled with sorrow and despair. The actors did an amazing job with conveying this. Even though Jasper was not on stage you could feel his presence lingering due to his impact in Act 1. It is truly amazing how touched I was by this performance. And seeing those younger than me take the stage in such a way made me feel real-

ly good about the direction that HSC theater is going. I definitely feel bad for anyone that missed this performance but remember starting April 23rd the play *Inherit the Wind* will be on the stage for all to see. I urge you to support your fellow Tigers within the theater industry so you can witness the amazing talent we have inside Johns Auditorium. Roll Tigers!!!!

A Rundown on Ukraine

BENJAMIN OLSON '22
GUEST WRITER

On February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation, after weeks of military buildup, invaded Ukraine. What many thought would be a quick decapitation of a weak military and weaker state has turned into a weeks-long siege of the country. This has brought war to a Europe that many claim that has not seen war since 1940 but Serbs and Bosnians would beg to differ. By US and Ukrainian estimates the death toll is near 15,000 and has produced the largest refugee crisis since World War II. The Rus-

so-Ukrainian war started before the current invasion we see today. In 2014, the Ukrainians overthrew a Rusophile president wanting to join the EU and flirting with the possibility of joining NATO. Since then, the Russians have annexed the Crimean peninsula. Crimea was only handed over to the Ukrainian Soviet Socialists Republic in 1954. Previously it belonged to the Russian Empire and later the Russian Soviet Federative Republic. Also in 2014, Russia sponsored separatists in Donetsk and Luhansk to rise up against the

Ukrainian government. These provinces have been in conflict since that time and have seen on and off conflict since then. Russia and Ukraine have a long, troubling history that stretches from their very foundations. Both countries were founded in the early ADs by Nordic settlers and Vikings intermingling with the native Slavic population. This led to a country which is called the Kievan Rus. As the name suggests the power center of this settlement was located in Kiev, (Kyiv using the Ukrainian spelling) the modern day capital of Ukraine and Rus leading to the name of Russia. Since that time, Russia has grown up as the protector of the Slavic peoples. This motivation led to Russia's involvement in the First World War. Ukraine has been considered the breadbasket of Europe and after the Soviets rose to power in the 1920s, they extorted the Ukrainians leading to a manmade famine known as the Holodomor. Needless to say, the rift and bonds between Ukrainians and Russians runs centuries deep. As the situation stands on March 15, 2022, the Russians are attempting to encircle Kyiv. However, the Russians have been plagued with a plethora of logistical issues and dealing with the ruspaputisa (the muddy season in Eastern Europe). Many still expect Ukraine to fall in the coming weeks, but for now Ukraine has held fast against the Russian bear.

Folks, it's time.

It's been a good run, but we need a new editor-in-chief.

It's time to take the current one out to pasture.

And if you take a look at his column this week, and you'll see exactly what we mean. It's trash.

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Christian's Corner

Questions for Christians, answered by a Christian.

DAVID CREGO '23
COPY EDITOR

Brothers and Sisters of Hampden-Sydney, the season of Lent is finally upon us. May we joyfully celebrate this time of fasting, praying, and penitence. In this article, I would like to focus on fasting, because it is usually the least understood of the three. I hope that all of you were able to find something in your life to give up for these next 40 days. (I myself gave up smoking.) But remember why we fast. We do not give up things for Lent because it betters us (though this is a desirable outcome); we fast for the sake of God. What you fast from does not necessarily need to be something unhealthy or bad for you (though those are usually good things to give up). You might, and as difficult as this sounds, give up warm showers and take only cold showers during Lent. Nothing wakes you up faster than ice

cold water in the morning. Lent is great and prepares us for glorious Easter, but I challenge you, dear reader, to extend asceticism into your everyday life. Let us consider the temptations of Jesus, for what would anything about Lent be without this allusion. First, Jesus was tempted to turn stones into loaves of bread to satiate his hunger (Matt 4:3). Second, Jesus was promised glory if he threw himself off the parapet of the temple (Matt 4:6). Third, Jesus was promised power if he only submitted and worshipped Satan. Jesus' response to each temptation is the same: there is only one God, the Father almighty. Jesus did not submit to his bodily desires, the promise of glory, and definitely not to the promise of power because each one is a poor substitute for God. We do not have the fortitude of Jesus, but asceticism allows us a path towards improvement.

Asceticism has two valuable effects: 1) it helps us discern the idols in our life and 2) prepares us for the hardship that we are sure to face in life. If you thought that there is something that you could not give up, then that is something that you should probably give up. Like it or not, we distract ourselves with idols. They might not be obvious appeals to other gods or powers, but they are still dangerous. An idol can be ubiquitous, excessive social media, soda or alcohol, or studying. Even if we have

identified the idols in our lives, we still need the strength to abandon them. Thus, asceticism habituates us towards resisting our own weakness, for if we cannot even control ourselves over small matters, how can we expect us to resist larger matters? I understand that there is a hesitation towards asceticism; it seems unnecessarily restrictive. Why should I deny myself something when I know that I am capable of indulging in moderation? When we follow asceticism faithfully, it is liberating. It is

amazing what you actually do not need. I am reminded by C.S. Lewis's *The Great Divorce* of the souls who refuse to allow an angel to purge their idols. They know that what they worship is bad, but they are reluctant to extinguish them, but when they exit Hell, they remark at the grand insignificance of it. Hell in *The Great Divorce* is the size of a small crack in the ground that is thinner than a blade of grass. This is analogous to how we make mountains out of mole hills of the trifles of life. Asceticism is not for everyone admittedly, but it is definitely worth a real try. Alas, that is but my humble interpretation. Each person is called into a relationship with Christ, and each person is unique. If you have any questions or quarrels with whatever I have said, please, do not hesitate to email me, David Crego, at Cregod23@hsc.edu. God Bless!

